

GRAND GULCH ISA COMPLEX

In the north-central part of this ISA Complex there are two cherry-stemmed drill pads. In the creekbed just east of the most northern drill pad, a 10-foot stretch has been bulldozed to allow cattle access to a spring. This imprint is not noticeable because it is directly in the wash bottom.

In the south-central part of this unit, the Point Lookout fence angles between the third fork of Slickhorn Canyon and a westerly fork of John's Canyon. This fence was built in 1980 with steel posts and four strands of barbed wire. It extends through moderately dense pinyon-juniper for about 2 miles. Tree cuts are minimal, but there are vehicle tracks associated with its construction. The pinyon and juniper trees effectively screen views of the fence from any distance other than on the fence line.

Also in the Point Lookout area, at the south end of the cherry-stemmed county road, are three reservoirs located in Sections 10, 11, and 14. The one in Section 10 has a 3-foot-tall 15-foot-long berm to hold water in a slickrock depression. The dam in Section 11 is relatively large, being about 12 feet high by about 30 feet long, its pool area is also on slickrock. The reservoir in Section 14 is of approximately 40-foot diameter. In Section 11, a spring was at one time improved in the bottom of a shallow canyon. Now the improvements (two troughs and some pipeline) are largely dilapidated. A way connects the reservoir in Section 11 with the one in Section 14. This way is maintained solely by the passage of vehicles, mostly over slickrock. The Point Lookout reseeding of 640 acres was completed in 1963. Regrowth of sage has occurred obscuring the plant deadfall and the flat, open area still has much grass growth. The average visitor would probably not recognize this as a range plant manipulation project.

In the John's Canyon area, imprints are confined mainly to the mesa tops. However, in lower John's Canyon there is the old homestead site, a way, and an old steam drill hole. The homestead from the 1930s consists of a corral made of juniper poles with cables from the old drilling operation strung between them, the frame of a small tack shed, and two collapsed dugout structures. A juniper pole fence line in disrepair, probably associated with this homestead, extends across the valley in this area. A large stand of cottonwood trees provides shade and aids in screening these impacts.

Up the valley of John's Canyon the passage of vehicles has created a way for 2.3 miles beyond the

cherry-stemmed road and drill pad in Section 25. The way crosses washes at three points, but for the most part consists of two-wheel ruts over grass and sage, with greasewood nearby. The way ends at an old cowboy camp with a fire pit and old rusted cans. Since this way crosses the wide-bottomed, open valley, it is visible from most any vantage point within 1 mile, especially the canyon rims.

In the west fork of John's Canyon, Section 18, there is a capped drill hole, pipes, and a few other steel pieces of equipment laying around. These are remnants of a steam-powered drilling operation in the early 1900s and have historic value. There have been several pinyon trees cut down in the area, probably for powering the steam drill. The access road was probably in the wash since there is no longer any sign of it.

The upper forks of John's Canyon are rugged and impassable to vehicles, although there are many access points for vehicles to the canyon rims from roads nearby and Highway 261. Off-road woodcutting seems to be responsible for most of the vehicle tracks along the rims. Along the rim of the westernmost fork of John's Canyon, the passage of vehicles has created six ways totalling about 4.7 miles into the unit. The ways wind among the pinyon and juniper trees and show up on the cryptogamic soil.

The eastern boundary way serves nine reservoirs, only two of which are on the west side of the way and within the unit. One reservoir is U-shaped and the dam is about 8 feet tall. The other has a 3-foot-tall dam and 25-foot-diameter reservoir.

Three short seismic reflection lines are on the mesa above John's Canyon. All three are less than 0.75 mile long. These lines have been cut through moderately dense pinyon-juniper forest; hence, they are seen easily from the air but screened well on the ground.

The Muley Point reseeding, in the extreme southeast portion of the WSA, was done at the same time as the Point Lookout reseeding and has similarly revegetated with sage although many grasses still thrive. As with the Point Lookout reseeding, this disturbance would not be obvious to the average visitor.

Two steel-pole/barbed-wire fences extend for very short distances into the unit on the rim of John's Canyon.